

College Psychologist

DEPARTMENT/TEAM	Student Wellbeing - Support Staff
RESPONSIBLE TO	Principal
DIRECT SUPERVISOR	Head College Psychologist
CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT	Educational Services (Schools) General Staff Award

College Overview

St Mary Star of the Sea College is a Catholic Girls' Secondary School in the Good Samaritan tradition, which recognises and respects the dignity and individuality of each person within our multicultural community. We strive to develop each student's capabilities through a variety of high-quality learning experiences while promoting the freedom and love of learning. We are deeply committed to amplifying the voice and the gifts of young women to enable them to be and to achieve their best and to claim their roles as leaders of the future. We are equally deeply committed to equipping our students with the skills and the confidence to ensure their agency and advocacy over their lives and their relationships. All members of staff have a responsibility to foster in their students and in their colleagues the rich tradition of Catholic values and education in the Good Samaritan/Benedictine tradition.

As a community of faith, Good Samaritan Education (GSE) is deeply rooted in the Benedictine spirituality gifted to us by the Congregation of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. The Rule of Benedict, written over 1500 years ago and lived by the Sisters for over 150 years in Australia, underpins GSE's commitment to the ministry of Catholic education. This commitment is further inspired by the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-27) and gives witness through the engagement of the schools with the ministries and works of the sisters.

As a member College of Good Samaritan Education, St Mary Star of the Sea College continues to be guided by the Good Samaritan Philosophy of Education and shaped by its commitment to the values of our spiritual tradition, including stewardship, mutuality, prayer, hospitality, humility, discernment, justice and peace. We are committed to the statement on [The Voice and Experience of Women in Leadership](#).

All roles within the College reflect an understanding of the policies which govern the administration and structures of College management, including Care and Protection of Students, Crisis Management and Privacy. It is an expectation that all members of staff, while acknowledging the authority and responsibility of middle management and the Executive, would work together cooperatively at all times to achieve the best outcomes for all members of this Good Samaritan College community.

Position Purpose

To provide effective counselling and work to actively support the overall wellbeing of students at the College.

Accountabilities

- Provision of psychological interventions for students, including one-on-one and group counselling.
- Maintain accurate and confidential records in compliance with ethical and legal requirements.
- Utilise evidence based, short term counselling interventions undertaken within the constraints of training, experience and supervision.
- Conduct risk assessments, safety planning and care for students at risk.
- Work in consultation with the Principal, College Executive, staff and student support services to improve student learning and wellbeing outcomes and implement current College priorities.
- Liaise with staff and supporting parents about safety, risk of harm concerns and general wellbeing considerations of students.
- Liaise with students, their families and relevant external professionals as appropriate, to provide support to meet identified needs of students.
- Administer cognitive, social, emotional and behavioural assessment of students (including psychometric testing), report on the results of assessments and interventions and collaborate to improve learning, wellbeing and mental health outcomes.
- Proactively contribute to whole school initiatives including the annual College expo, RUOK Day and other College events and initiatives.
- Prepare and deliver resources and presentations for staff at professional learning days or staff meetings.
- Assist in the education of students and families in preventative wellbeing programs and strategies.
- Attend regular meetings with the Counselling, Student Wellbeing and Learning Support Teams.
- Engage with and implement the procedures of the College.
- Respond as part of a team to assist the College in responding to critical incidents
- Maintain appropriate professional accreditation and demonstrate an active commitment to continued professional development.
- Being an active and positive contributor to the culture of the College and engaging in College community activities and events.
- Other relevant duties as directed by the Head College Psychologist or College Executive.

Key Challenges

- Providing high standards of professionalism and customer service to diverse stakeholders while managing competing priorities and high volumes of work.
- Maintaining effective organisation and professionalism while carrying out a variety of functions which may be complex in nature and require sound judgment, initiative and problem solving.
- Being flexible and responsive to changing priorities and critical incidents, working as part of a dispersed team within a fast-paced environment.

Key Relationships

- Responsible to the Principal, the College Psychologist reports directly to the Head College Psychologist.
- As a member of the Student Wellbeing team, the College Psychologist works in collaboration with the Year Coordinators, College Executive, Learning Support Team and teachers of St Mary Star of the Sea College to provide a professional counselling service.
- The role requires the establishment of positive working relationships with all staff, students Years 7-12 and their parents/carers.
- The role requires maintaining effective networks and positive working relationships with relevant external professionals and service providers.

Essential Requirements

- Recognised formal qualification in Psychology.
- General or Provisional registration as a Psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia (PsyBA) through AHPRA
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills with a focus on exceptional customer service.
- Experience in identification, formulation, and counselling of students.
- Ability to develop positive relationships with students in Years 7-12 and their families.
- Ability to work as a positive team member in a multi-disciplinary team.
- Ability to work proactively in supporting the general wellbeing of students.
- Professionalism and discretion at all times in relation to confidential matters.
- Flexibility and commitment to the provision of a high standard of professional care with the ability to contribute to critical tasks or projects outside of normal hours when required.